



# A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG RURAL AND URBAN PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO GOALPARA DISTRICT OF ASSAM

Mantu Kalita

Assistant Professor (P/T), Department of Education, Dudhnoi College, Dudhnoi, Goalpara, Assam.

## ABSTRACT

Man is a social being. As a social being, our life is unthinkable without proper education as well as cannot proceed any walk of our life without education. Socio-economic development plays a vital role in all round development of any society or community. Education is one of the major weapon to improving the socio-economic aspect. It also reduces the social evil like Child Marriage, Dowry, Superstition beliefs.

In the social production of their life, men enter into definite relations that are indispensable and independent of their will, these relations of production correspond to a definite stage of development of their material forces of production. The sum total of these relations of production constitutes the economic structure of society – the real foundation, on which rises a legal and political superstructure and to which correspond definite forms of social consciousness.

This paper is specially emphasize to examine about socio-economic consciousness of both the urban and rural people of Goalpara district Assam.

**KEY WORDS:** Socio-economic society, consciousness, education etc.

### 1. Introduction:

Socio-economic consciousness is consciousness shared by individuals within a society. According to Karl Marx, Human being enter into certain productive, or economic relations and this relation leads to a form of socio-economic consciousness. Man is a social being. As a social being, our life is unthinkable without proper education as well as cannot proceed any walk of our life without education. Socio-economic development plays a vital role in all round development of any society or community. Education is one of the major weapon to improving the socio-economic aspect. It also reduces the social evil like Child Marriage, Dowry, Superstition beliefs.

### 2. Significance of the Study:

Goalpara district is a major district of Assam. The socio-economic consciousness of this district is not satisfactory till date due to so many reasons. This paper specially emphasized on the realizing this aspects emotion attached to this place as it is local area of the investigator, the study was undertaken in this area.

### 3. Objectives:

- (i) To examine about the socio-economic consciousness of the people of Goalpara district of Assam.
- (ii) To make a comparison among rural and urban people regarding socio-economic consciousness of Goalpara district of Assam.

### 4. Delimitation:

The study area has been limited to the Goalpara district of Assam.

### 5. Method:

In the present study descriptive survey method has been applied. The present study based on the quantitative data analysis only.

### 6. Population:

The population of the present study consists of all the adult people, both men and women under Goalpara district of Assam.

### 7. Sample:

For the present study total 300 adult people both male and female, 150 from rural areas and 150 from urban areas have been randomly selected as a sample to collect the required data.

### 8. Tools used:

In the present study the following tools were constructed and used for the data collections.

- (i) Questionnaires,
- (ii) Personal Interviews, when necessary.

### 9. Analysis of the Study:

Keeping in view of the objectives of the study, the data collected was classified and tabulated. Analysis of data is studied according to the following objectives:

### 9.1. Objective: 1

“To examine about the socio-economic consciousness of the people of Goalpara district of Assam”.

The analysis was tabulated on the basis of the responses using simple percentage, which is given below:

**Table No. 1.**  
**Item wise analysis of the responses of the people**

Item Nos	Particulars	No. of People	Yes	%	No	%
1.	Equality before law	300	215	71.67	85	28.33
2.	Fundamental rights	300	201	67	99	33
3.	Awareness on Education	300	199	66.33	101	33.67
4.	Child Labor	300	190	63.33	110	36.67
5.	Family Planning	300	187	62.33	113	37.67
6.	Development of innate power	300	161	53.67	139	46.33
7.	Dowry system	300	201	67	99	33
8.	Superstition beliefs	300	263	87.67	37	12.33
9.	Participation at social works	300	252	84	48	16
10.	Economically independent	300	179	59.67	121	40.33
11.	Discrimination between girls and boys	300	196	65.33	104	34.67
12.	Benefits of govt. program and policies	300	157	52.33	143	47.67
13.	Same wages for man and women for same works	300	177	59	123	41
14.	Tortured by other	300	192	64	108	36
15.	Child marriage	300	219	73	81	27

### Analysis 1.

From the table 1, it has been found that out of 300 adult people of Goalpara District 66.42% responded as “YES” and 33.58% of people were responded as “NO” regarding socio-economic consciousness.

Among them in the item nos. 8 and 9, out of 300 adult people 87.67% and 84% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 12.33% and 16% respectively were responded as “NO” regarding consciousness about superstition beliefs and participation at social works.

In the item no. 1 and 15, 71.67% and 73% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 28.33% and 27% respectively were responded as “NO” regarding the consciousness about equality before the law and child marriage.

Again in the item nos. 2 and 7, both responded 67% as “YES” and 33% were responded as “NO” regarding the consciousness about Fundamental rights and dowry system.

Again in the item no. 4, 5 and 14 out of 300 adult people, 63.33% 62.33% and 64% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 36.67%, 37.67% and 36% respectively were responded as “NO” regarding the consciousness about child labor, family planning and tortured by others.

In the item nos. 3 and 11, out of 300 people 63.33% and 65.33% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 33.67% and 34.67% respectively were responded as “NO” regarding the consciousness about awareness on education and discrimination between girl and boy child.

In the item nos. 10 and 13, out of 300 people, 59.67% and 59% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 40.33% and 41% respectively were responded as “NO” regarding the consciousness about economically independent and same wages for man and women for same works.

Again in the item nos. 6 and 12, out of 300 people, 53.67% and 52.33% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 46.33% and 47.67% respectively were responded as “NO” regarding the consciousness about opportunities for development on potentialities and benefits of govt. program and policies.

## 9.2. Objective 2 :

“To make a comparison among rural and urban people regarding socio-economic consciousness of Goalpara district of Assam”.

This comparison is shown by the table 2.

**Table No. 2.**  
**Comparison between the views of rural and urban adult people**

Item Nos	Urban People	Yes	%	No	%	Rural People	Yes	%	No	%
1.	150	148	98.67	2	1.33	150	122	81.33	28	18.67
2.	150	129	86	21	14	150	109	72.67	41	27.33
3.	150	127	84.67	23	15.33	150	113	75.33	37	24.67
4.	150	130	86.67	20	13.33	150	121	80.67	29	19.33
5.	150	142	94.67	08	5.33	150	81	54	69	46
6.	150	139	92.67	11	7.33	150	104	69.33	46	30.67
7.	150	197	64.67	53	35.33	150	71	47.33	79	52.67
8.	150	15	10	135	90	150	135	90	15	10
9.	150	103	68.67	47	31.33	150	131	87.33	19	12.67
10.	150	146	97.33	4	2.67	150	128	85.33	22	14.67
11.	150	145	96.67	5	3.33	150	112	74.67	38	25.33
12.	150	130	86.67	20	13.33	150	103	68.67	47	31.33
13.	150	136	90.67	14	9.33	150	117	78	33	22
14.	150	103	68.67	47	31.33	150	129	86	21	14
15.	150	141	94	09	6	150	134	89.33	16	10.67

Average :                      81.38%                      18.62%      7                      6.00                      24.00%

## Analysis 2.

From the table 2, it has been found that out of 150 urban adult people 81.38% of people were responded as “YES” and on the other hand 76% of rural people were responded as “YES” regarding their socio-economic consciousness.

In the item nos. 1, 2 and 3, out of 150 urban people 98.67%, 86% and 84.67% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand out 150 rural people 81.33%, 72.67% and 75.33% respectively were responded as “YES” regarding the consciousness about equality before the law, fundamental rights and awareness on education.

Again in the item nos. 4,5 and 6, out of 150 urban people 86.67%, 94.67% and 92.67% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand out of 150 rural people 80.67%, 54% and 69.33% respectively were responded as “YES” regarding the consciousness about child labor, family planning and opportunity for the development of own potentialities.

Again in the item nos. 7,8 and 9, out of 150 urban people 64.67%, 10% and 68.67% respectively were responded as yes and on the other hand out of 150 rural people 47.33%, 90% and 87.33% respectively were responded as “YES” regarding the consciousness about dowry system superstition beliefs and participation at social works.

Again in the item nos. 10, 11 and 12, out of 150 urban people 97.33%, 96.67% and 86.67% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand out of 150 rural people 85.33%, 74.67% and 68.67% respectively were responded as “YES” regarding the consciousness about economically independent, discrimination between girls and boys children and benefits of govt. program and policies.

Again in the item nos. 13, 14 and 15, out of 150 urban people 90.67%, 68.67% and 94% respectively were responded as “YES” and on the other hand out of 150 rural people 78%, 86% and 89.33% respectively were responded as “YES” regarding the consciousness about same wages for male and female for same works, regarding tortured by others and regarding child marriage.

## 10. Major Findings :

From the study, the following major finding have been found and can be summarized as follows :

- It has been found that people of Goalpara District are conscious regarding their socio-economic aspects, i.e. 66.42%.
- It has been found that urban people are more conscious i.e. 81.38% than the people of rural areas. i.e. 76%
- It also has been found that 87.67% of people of Goalpara District believe superstition beliefs.
- It also has been found that rural people are more actively participate at social works, i.e. 87.33% than urban people, i.e. 68.67%
- It has been found that 71.67% of people of Goalpara District possesses that all are equal pay for the law.
- It has been found that 66.33% of people conscious about educational rights.
- It also has been found that the percentage of child labor is approximately same in both urban and rural areas of Goalpara district, i.e. 86.67% and 80.67% respectively.
- It has been found that urban people are more conscious about family planning, i.e. 94.67% than rural people i.e. 54%.
- It also has been found that urban people are more conscious about the development of their innate potentialities, i.e. 92.67% than rural people i.e. 69.33%
- It also has been found that 67% of people of Goalpara district not supported to the dowry system.
- It also has been found that the urban people are more economically independent, i.e. 97.33% than rural people i.e. 83.33%.
- It also has been found that 65.33% of people of Goalpara district are against to discrimination between boys and girls child.
- It also has been found that urban people are more conscious about the benefits of govt. program and policies i.e. 86.67% than rural people i.e. 68.67%.
- It also has been found that urban people are more conscious about same wages for male and female for same works i.e. 90.67% than the rural people i.e. 78%.
- It also has been found that rural people are more tortured by others i.e. 86% than urban people i.e. 68.67%.
- It also has been found that urban people are more conscious against child marriage i.e. 94% than rural people i.e. 89.33%.

## 11. Conclusion :

At the conclusion we can say that socio-economic consciousness in Goalpara districts of Assam is satisfactory but it is needed to create awareness about their socio-economic rights. The mode of production of material life determines the social, political and intellectual life process in general. It is not the consciousness of man that determines their being, but, on the contrary, their social being that determines their consciousness.

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